

# Borough of Rocky Hill

## Council Minutes

### December 6, 2004

A regular meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Nolan at 7:30 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country and a moment of silent meditation. It was announced that this meeting has been advertised in the Somerset Messenger Gazette issue of December 6, 2003 in accordance with “The Open Public Meetings Act”.

### *Roll Call:*

#### **Present**

- Mr. Richard Batchelder
- Mr. Martin Engelbrecht
- Ms. Connie Hallman
- Ms. Peggy Harris
- Mr. George Morren
- Mr. Edward Zimmerman

### *Minutes*

The minutes of the November 15, 2004 meeting of the Rocky Hill Borough Council were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Morren, second by Ms. Harris. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. The minutes of the November 15, 2004 Executive Session Meeting were approved as presented with a motion by Ms. Harris, second by Ms. Hallman. On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

### *Public Comment*

Nothing at this time.

### *State Police Report*

SGT. Morenski reported the town has been very quiet since his last report. He said Lt. Devlin was in town for the tree lighting on Sunday December 5, 2004. Mayor Nolan asked the SGT. to extend to Lt. Devlin and the Hamilton Station the best wishes of the Borough Council, the staff and himself for a joyous holiday season.

### *Engineer's Report*

A copy of the report is on file with the Clerk. Mr. Tanner said all the paper work is completed to receive our grant money from the State for the Crescent Road repaving project. He will have the core samples taken very soon. He presented Councilmembers with Rocky Hill’s Stormwater Mgt. Plan for their review. It will be discussed and adopted at the December 20, 2004 meeting of Borough Council. The traffic calming speed hump project is complete. Mr. Tanner is still trying to set up a meeting with EPA to discuss the Princeton Gamma Tech Issue. Mr. Tanner said Montgomery Twp. has awarded the contract for the Van Horne Park Development to Flanagan’s Contracting Group subject to the award of the project by Rocky Hill Borough. Mr. Zimmerman moved, second by Ms. Harris the RESOLUTION to award the park development project to Flanagan’s Construction Group. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #1 for the Resolution. The River road Bridge Project should be completed very soon. Mr. Tanner received a quote of \$650.00 from JML Contracting to correct the drainage problem at the end of Grove Street. Mr. Batchelder moved, second Ms. Harris to approve the work to correct the drainage problem at the end of Grove Street. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. It was stated that Rocky Hill Borough has received a \$70,000.00 grant to construct a sidewalk along the east side of Princeton Avenue to the Borough Line. Mr. Tanner has met with the owners of 24 Montgomery Avenue concerning the drainage problem and will have a report to correct the problem soon.

### *Transfers in the 2004 Municipal Budget*

Mr. Batchelder moved by Resolution, second by Mr. Morren the following transfers.

To account #1116 Insurance Liability	\$3000.00
From account #1503 Heating Oil	\$1000.00
From account #1114 Gen Adm	\$2000.00
To account #1124 Planning Exp	\$3000.00
From account #1115 Park Maint	\$3000.00

On a roll call vote all present voted aye.

## ***Bill List***

Mr. Morren presented the following RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS THE TREASURER HAS CERTIFIED THAT SUFFICIENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO PAY SAID VOUCHERS: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT THE FOLLOWING VOUCHERS BE APPROVED FOR PAYMENT. Second by Ms. Hallman. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. See appendix #2 for the Bill List.

## ***Committee reports***

**Administration & Records:** It was reported that the records to be destroyed will be completed soon and the cost to shred the documents is \$250.00 per hour and the company estimates it will take one hour to complete.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Mr. Zimmerman said the new file cabinets are in the Clerk's Office and the files have been transferred. The new cleaning company has started to clean Borough Hall and so far seem to be doing a great job.

**Finance & Insurance:** Mr. Batchelder said a budget report from Mr. Bobal will be distributed soon and he asked Councilmembers to check their line items because budget items with balances will be cancelled at years end. The Borough and the Emergency Services will be receiving free internet connections from Patriot Media very soon.

**Public Safety/ Emergency Services:** Mr. Morren reported five parking summons were issued during November and he said both Constables will be at the December Municipal Court on December 16, 2004.

**Streets & Roads:** Ms. Harris asked if the gazette would remind residents to shovel their sidewalks after a snow storm and to shovel out a fire hydrant if it is in front of their home.

**Water, Sewer, & Environmental Protection:** Mr. Engelbrecht reported that for October 2004 2,709,000 gallons of water was pumped from well #2 and all tests were O.K.

**Board of Health: Mr. Engelbrecht said the health surveys have been sent out to Rocky Hill Residents.**

**School Board:** Ms. Hallman said Ms. Zimmerman told her Montgomery Twp. is working to get the new High School opened and they may start a summer enrichment program.

**Council representative to Planning Board:** The meeting is next week

**Zoning Official:** The report is on file with the Clerk.

## ***Special Business***

Mayor Nolan opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 15-04 An Ordinance concerned with escrow fees of the Planning Board. There was no Public Comment and Mayor Nolan closed the Public Hearing.

Several Councilmembers expressed concern with the amount of \$20,000.00 as the highest escrow fee and concern about not being able to receive a certificate of Occupancy if all fees are not paid. It was felt the language should be changed. The Ordinance was held for adoption at a later date.

Mayor Nolan opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 16-04 An Ordinance providing funding for the purchase of a new Ambulance for the Rocky Hill Emergency Services. There was no public comment and Mayor Nolan closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Morren moved, second by Ms. Harris to adopt Ordinance 16-04 in final form. On a roll call vote all present voted aye. Bids will be received on January 12, 2004 and presented to Borough Council at the January 18, 2004 meeting.

## ***Communications***

They were discussed and ordered filed.

Mayor Nolan asked if Councilmembers had a chance to look at the RESOLUTION of support for a public vote on whether to convene a constitutional convention to recommend tax reform changes.

After some discussion Ms. Hallman moved the RESOLUTION, second by Mr. Engelbrecht. On a roll call vote Mr. Engelbrecht, Ms. Hallman, Ms. Harris, and Mr. Zimmerman voted aye. Mr. Batchelder and Mr. Morren voted nay. See appendix #3 for the resolution.

## ***Unfinished Business***

The date to receive new ambulance bids was already set.

## ***New Business***

Mayor Nolan nominated Council President Peggy Harris for the award as an outstanding Women in Somerset County. There were no other nominations from Council.

Ms. Hallman moved, second by Ms. Harris approval of the 2005 meetings for Borough Council. See appendix #4 for the dates.

## ***Public Comment***

Ms. Jane Oakley read a letter thanking Borough Council for installing the speed humps along Montgomery Avenue.

## ***Adjournment***

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM with a motion by Mr. Batchelder, second by Ms. Hallman. On a voice vote all present voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond E. Whitlock Jr.  
Borough Clerk